

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
ASBTRACT

PUBLIC SERVANTS — CAF&CS Department - Legal Metrology — Case registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988) for the allegations of demand and acceptance of bribe against Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam — Sanction for prosecution - Orders — Issued.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES (CS-II-OP) DEPARTMENT

**G.O.Ms.No. 12**

**Dated: 23-11-2020**

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**ORDER:**

Whereas, Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, S/o Sri Linga Moorthy, worked as District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam, Khammam District during the period from 01-09-2018 to 17-11-2018 and by virtue of the post held by him, he falls under the category of public servants as defined under clause (c) of Section 2 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988).

2. And whereas, Sri Thallapureddy Sidda Reddy, S/o Sri Narayana Reddy, 60 yrs. Owner of SS (Sri Surya) Weigh Bridge, R/o Edulapuram, Khammam Rural Mandal, Khammam District and is eking livelihood by running electronic weigh bridge on the name of his son SS (Sri Surya) Weigh Bridge at Warangal cross road, Khammam.

3. And whereas, Sri Thallapureddy Sidda Reddy submitted a Telugu typed petition on 20.09.2018 at 09.00 hrs stating that since 2017, he was eking livelihood by running SS (Sri Surya) electronic weigh bridge at Warangal cross road. The said weigh bridge was registered on the name of his son Sri Surya Reddy. At the time of establishing the electronic weigh bridge, the then District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam, Sri Ravinder inspected the weigh bridge, collected Rs.3,375/- as fee amount and affixed seal on the weigh bridge. As his electronic weigh bridge permission was due to be expired by 20.08.2018, he went to District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam on 07.08.2018 and submitted an application for renewal of permission, in the dispatch section, also obtained acknowledgement. He also met Sri G.Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam and requested to inspect his weigh bridge. On that, Sri G.Ashok Babu instructed him to meet his agent Sri E.Sreekanth and talk with him in this regard. Subsequently, after 4, 5 days, he again went to District Metrology Office, Khammam, met Sri G.Ashok Babu and requested him to inspect his electronic weigh bridge, affix seal and renew the permission. On that, Sri G.Ashok Babu again instructed him to meet his agent Sri E.Sreekanth discuss about his (complainant) work with him and settle the matter. Sri E.Sreekanth mediates with the applicants visiting the District Legal Metrology Office and collect bribes from them on behalf of Sri G.Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam. Accordingly, he met Sri E.Sreekanth and discussed about the renewal of permission. At that time, Sri E.Sreekanth demanded Rs.15,000/- as bribe for getting his work done. On his (complainant) request to reduce the bribe amount, Sri E.Sreekanth reduced the bribe amount to Rs.10,500/- and Rs.3,000/-, as challan fee. But, Sri T.Sidda Reddy expressed his inability to pay such a big amount as bribe and left the place. On 18.09.2018, he made phone call to Sri G.Ashok Babu on his cell No.9491820960 and informed him that Sri E.Sreekanth was demanding Rs.13,500/- as bribe. On that, Sri G.Ashok Babu told Sri T.Sidda Reddy not to discuss the issue on phone and advised him to come to his office and discuss the issue personally. On that, when Sri T.Sidda Reddy met Sri E.Sreekanth the same day, he reiterated his earlier demand, and as Sri T.Sidda Reddy had no other option to get his work done, he (complainant) had

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to reluctantly agree for his demand. However, Sri T.Sidda Reddy was not interested to get his work done by paying bribe. Sri G.Ashok Babu, abusing his official position, was demanding bribe of Rs. 13,500/- including Rs.3,000/- as challan fee through his agent Sri E.Sreekanth for doing his public duty. On 20-09-2018 Sri T.Sidda Reddy lodged a petition requesting to take necessary action against Sri G.Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam and his private agent Sri E.Sreekanth.

4. On receipt of the petition from Sri T.Sidda Reddy, the Inspector, ACB, Khammam informed the contents to DSP, Warangal Range, Warangal, FAC Khammam Range over phone, and as per his instructions, the Inspector provided a spy gadget and instructed Sri T.Sidda Reddy to meet Sri G.Ashok Babu at his office. Accordingly, on 20-09-2018, Sri T.Sidda Reddy met Sri G.Ashok Babu & Sri E.Sreekanth at District Legal Metrology Office, Khammam. Sri G.Ashok Babu reiterated to meet Sri E.Sreekanth to settle the matter, and Sri T.Sidda Reddy, accordingly, met Sri E.Sreekanth who was present in the office. Sri E.Sreekanth demanded to give Rs.13,000/- as bribe. Sri T.Sidda Reddy recorded the entire conversation in the spy gadget. He (complainant) gave further petition to the Inspector, ACB, Khammam. Later, on 16-11-2018, when Sri T.Sidda Reddy went to the office of Sri G.Ashok Babu, he (Sri G.Ashok Babu) informed to Sri T.Sidda Reddy that he would send his private agent Sri E.Sreekanth to the weigh bridge for collecting the bribe amount. Sri T.Sidda Reddy informed the same to the Inspector, ACB, Khammam.

5. And whereas, after observing all the formalities, a case in Crime No. 10/ACB-KMM/2018. U/s 7 (a) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as Amended in 2018) r/w 34 IPC was registered on 17.11.2018 at 09.30 hrs by the DSP, ACB. Khammam Range, Khammam against Sri G.Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam and his private agent Sri E.Sreekanth and arrangements were made for laying a trap.

6. And whereas, Sri Ekambaram Sreekanth who was a Repairer License Holder and had been acting as private agent to Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, Dist. Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam met Sri Thallapureddy Sidda Reddy on 17.11.2018, at his weigh bridge. Khammam and demanded and accepted tainted bribe amount of Rs.13,000/- including Rs.3,000/- in the name of challan fee as illegal gratification. as per the instructions of Sri G.Ashok Babu. Sri Ekambaram Sreekanth had accepted the bribe amount with his right hand and counted the same with his both hands. The Phenolphthalein test conducted on both hand's fingers of Sri E.Sreekanth, yielded positive result, and the tainted amount of Rs.13,000/- was recovered from the possession of Sri E.Sreekanth in the presence of the mediators. The DSP, ACB, seized the tainted currency notes, and resultant solutions duly attested by the mediators.

7. Sri G.Ashok Babu kept the work of Sri T.Sidda Reddy pending for more than 2 months, and without instructing to pay challan fee of Rs.3,000/- and without inspecting the weigh bridge of Sri T.Sidda Reddy, he instructed Sri T.Sidda Reddy to meet Sri E.Sreekanth who was a Repairer License Holder and acting as private agent to Sri G.Ashok Babu, and settle the matter with him, in this regard. Subsequently, after 4-5 days, when Sri T.Sidda Reddy again met the Khammam District Legal Metrology Officer, Sri G.Ashok Babu and requested him to inspect his electronic weigh bridge, affix seal and renew the permission, Sri G.Ashok Babu again instructed Sri T.Sidda Reddy to meet his private agent Sri E.Sreekanth and discuss about his (complainant) work and settle the matter. Sri T.Sidda Reddy recorded the same in the SD card in the spy gadget on the day of demand i.e., on 20-09-2018. The Inspector, ACB had deposited the SD cards containing the video recordings done by Sri T.Sidda Reddy on the day of demand i.e., on 20-09-2018 and on the day of Trap i.e., on dt.17-11-2018, in the Hon'ble Court and got them forwarded to FSL, Hyderabad for analysis vide File No.SFSL(TS)/1957/ENG/12/2019, dt.05.03.2019.

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8. And whereas, the above said acts of Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam constitute offences punishable under section 7 (a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018).

9. And whereas, the Government of Telangana, being the competent authority to remove the said Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam from the service, after fully and carefully examining the material placed i.e., FIR, pre-trap & post-trap proceedings, statements of witnesses, Final Report of Director General, ACB, Telangana State, Hyderabad and all the relevant documents placed before the Government in respect of the said allegations and having regard to the circumstances of the case, consider that the said Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam should be prosecuted in a court of law, for the aforesaid offences.

10. Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988), the Government of Telangana do hereby accord sanction for the prosecution of the said Sri Guduri Ashok Babu, District Legal Metrology Officer, Khammam for the aforesaid offences punishable under section 7 (a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988) and for any other cognate offences punishable under any other provisions of law for the time being in force in respect of the aforesaid acts and for taking cognizance of the said offences by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

V. ANIL KUMAR  
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Director General,  
Anti Corruption Bureau,  
Telangana State, Hyderabad.